PTO/SB/30 (08-00/Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

REQUEST D EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

09/539,521
March 30, 2000
Kouki IDE
2714
Thai Q. Tran
107314-00002

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to application Examination and Provisions Application Practice, Fine Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1.	Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114			
	a.	□ i.	Previously submitted Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).	
	b.	ii. iii. ⊠	Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on Other Enclosed	
	υ.	i. ii.	☐ Amendment/Reply MAY 0 4 2004 ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)	
		iii. iv.	 ✓ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS), Form PTO-1449, English Translation of Japanese Office Action, References (2) ✓ Other 	
2.	N		laneous	
	a.		Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)	
	b.		Other	
3.	LF	ees	The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.	
	a.	\boxtimes	The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account Number 01-2300	
		i. ii.	RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)	
		iii.	Other Any additional fees which may be due Enclosed is Check #403580 in the amount of \$770.00	
	b. c.		Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)	
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED				
Na	me	(Print	Type) Charles M. Margressein Registration Number (Attorney/Agent) 25,895	
(Si	(Signature) Date April 29, 2004			

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, PC 20234. Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

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